RELIGION

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

COURSE GUIDE

2015-2016

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

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COURSE GUIDE

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DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION
UNDERGRADUATE COURSE GUIDE
2015-2016

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Faculty	 3
2.	Introduction to the Department	 4
3.	Knowledge of Two Major Religious Traditions	 4
4.	Departmental Programmes	 4
5.	Services Available to Students	 8
6.	The Boyd Sinyard Award	 8
7.	Concordia Religion Students' Association	8
8.	Course Offerings & Descriptions 2015-16 Fall/Winter	 9
9.	Department of Religion 2015-16 Fall/Winter Timetables	 23

Office
Room FA-101, 2060 Mackay Street, SGW Campus

Phone Number
Concordia University (514) 848-2424 (ext. 2065 Department of Religion)

Staff
Munit Merid, Assistant to the Chair
ext. 2065, email: munit.merid@concordia.ca
Tina Montandon, Assistant to the Graduate Programme Directors
ext. 2077, email: tina.montandon@concordia.ca

Advisor
Lynda Clarke, ext. 2076, email: lynda.clarke@concordia.ca
Marc Lalonde, ext. 2047 , email: marc.lalonde@concordia.ca
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http://www.alignmentsonline.com/GraphicRes/crscent1.jpg
www.kcmetro.cc.mo.us/longview/socsci/philosophy/religion/symbols.htm

This course guide has been prepared months in advance of the 2015-2016 academic year and information contained herein is subject to change. Students are advised not to purchase any texts without the approval of the professor concerned.
Due to the renumbering of courses in the Department, students should consult the list of equivalent undergraduate courses in the back of the 2015-2016 undergraduate calendar.

FACULTY

A list of the full-time faculty follows below. All possess degrees from universities and/or schools of advanced studies that represent the best academic centres for the study of religion in North America and India. All have published books that have made a contribution to their particular fields of study, have published in learned journals and given papers at learned societies. They have also won a reputation among their students for being good teachers, concerned about the quality of instruction at Concordia University, as well as for being "available" and committed to the development of a more meaningful student life.

Full-Time Faculty

Chair
Donald Boisvert, Ph.D. (University of Ottawa)

Professors
Lorenzo DiTommaso, Ph.D. (McMaster)
Richard Foltz, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Norma Joseph, Ph.D. (Concordia)
Michael Oppenheim, Ph.D. (University of California)
Leslie Orr, Ph.D. (McGill)
Ira Robinson, Ph.D. (Harvard)

Associate Professors
Lynda Clarke, Ph.D. (McGill)
Naftali Cohn, Ph.D. (University of Pennsylvania)
Carly Daniel-Hughes, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Marc des Jardins, Ph.D. (McGill)
André Gagné, Ph.D. (Université Catholique de Louvain/Université de Montréal) Department Theology
Shaman Hatley, Ph.D. (University of Pennsylvania)
Norman Ravvin, Ph.D. (Univ. of Toronto) – Chair in Quebec & Canadian Jewish Studies

Assistant Professors
Hillary Kaell, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Marc Lalonde, Ph.D. (Concordia)

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT

General Objectives
The Department of Religion is dedicated to the academic study of religions and other social and cultural phenomena in so far as they have been influenced or affected by religions. We are interested in the comparative study of many religions. Although we do study how many religious traditions articulate and defend their own self-understandings, we treat these theologies and buddhologies academically and comparatively.

Nature of Religious Studies
The academic study of religion is a multi-disciplinary enterprise. It involves the historical examination of religious movements, the literary analyses of their literatures, philosophical reflections on beliefs and teachings, the social scientific investigations of their rituals, practices, texts, and institutions, the psychological study of their participants and ethical inquiries regarding both their moral writings and social roles.

Correspondingly, the faculty in the department have been trained in a number of academic disciplines including history, sociology, anthropology, literary studies, philosophy, psychology and theology as well as in the study of particular religious traditions.

KNOWLEDGE OF TWO MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

The Department believes that every Major or Honours student in Religion or in Judaic Studies should possess, at time of graduation, a knowledge of at least two major religious traditions. For example, the student who is pursuing a Major in Judaic Studies will take some courses in a religious tradition other than Judaism. This basic principle reinforces the emphasis upon the centrality of the discipline of the History of Religions. A particular religious tradition can best be understood in the context of the general religious history of humankind.

DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMMES

The Department of Religion offers at the undergraduate level: minors, majors and honours programmes in Religion and in Judaic Studies. The degree requirements for all of these programmes can be found below. We also offer several graduate programmes: an M.A. in the History and Philosophy of Religion, an M.A. in Judaic Studies, and a Ph.D. in Religion. For further information on our graduate programmes, please contact the graduate programme assistant at 848-2424 ext.2077.

Women and Religion
As part of the Department of Religion's undergraduate curriculum, a concentration in **Women, Gender, and Sexuality** is offered. A variety of special courses are included in the regular program for the BA major in Religion. Religion majors can focus on this area for either the primary or secondary concentration requirements.

The study of women and religion is a growing field in which the Department of Religion of Concordia University has long been a leader. This structured concentration solidifies our commitment to this field and enables us to prepare students in a systematic and consistent fashion. The concentration furthers the work of the department in that it will allow students to pursue course work from a comparative, cross-cultural and multi-tradition perspective. The study of the role of women in the history and practice of religion introduces our students to an exciting and vital area of study.

Degree Requirements

60 B.A. Honours in Religion:

12 In a language related to thesis; or in a related discipline such as: Anthropology, Classics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Sociology, Women's Studies.
6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
21 From area of primary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 From area of secondary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 RELI elective credits at 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]
6 RELI 410[6]

42 B.A. Major in Religion

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3] or 215[3]
21 From area of primary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 From area of secondary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 RELI elective credits at 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]

24 Minor in Religion

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3] or 215[3]
18 RELI elective credits (chosen in consultation with Departmental advisor)

60 B.A. Honours in Judaic Studies

9 Chosen from: HEBR 210[6], HEBR 241[3], HEBR 242[3], RELI 401[3]
Students who demonstrate fluency in Hebrew by a written examination may substitute RELI courses at the 300 and 400 level approved by the departmental advisor.
3 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
12 Chosen from RELI 220[3], 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]
27 Electives chosen from courses in Judaism at the 200, 300, or 400 level. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course. Up to 12 credits may be substituted with courses in a related tradition and 12 credits with courses in a related language such as Hebrew, Aramaic, or Yiddish, for a maximum of 15 credits combined
3 RELI 409[3]
6 RELI 410[6]

42 B.A. Major in Judaic Studies

9 Hebrew language, typically chosen from: HEBR 210[6], HEBR 241[3], HEBR 242[3], RELI 401[3]
Students who demonstrate fluency in Hebrew may substitute religion courses at the 300 or 400 level approved by the undergraduate advisor.
3 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
12 RELI 220[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]

15 Electives chosen from courses in Judaism at the 200, 300, or 400 level. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course. Up to six credits may be substituted with courses in related traditions and related languages such as Hebrew, Aramaic, or Yiddish.

3 RELI 409[3]

24 Minor in Judaic Studies

3 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3 a], 215[3]

9 Chosen from RELI 220[3], 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]

12 Electives chosen from courses in Judaism at the 200, 300, r 400 level. Up to six credits may be substituted with courses in related traditions and related languages such as Hebrew, Aramaic, or Yiddish

24 Minor in Iranian Studies

3 RELI 318[3]

3 Chosen from ANTH 323[3] or ANTH credits dealing with the peoples and cultures of Iran or Persia and approved by the departmental advisor

3 Chosen from CLAS 230[3] or HIST 219[3]; HIST 240[3], 241[3], 467[3], POLI 391[3], 395[3]

3 Chosen from RELI 224[3], 316[3], 317[3], 319[3], 383[3], 411[3]

6 Chosen from RELI 412[3], 414[3] or RELI courses dealing with the religions of Iran or Persia

6 Credits chosen from any courses dealing primarily with Iran or the Eurasian regions historically influenced by Iranian and Persian culture and approved by the departmental advisor

NOTE: Any of the courses above may be substituted by an appropriate course approved by the departmental advisor.

Areas of Concentration

A - Asian Religions (21 credits) - chosen from any of the following:

6 Chosen from RELI 215[3], 224[3], 225[3], 226[3], 360[3], 361[3], 362[3]

15 Chosen from any courses on the subject of Asian religions, including Islam. This may include courses not already taken from the first level of requirement. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

NOTE: Majors in Religion concentrating in Asian religions may count up to six credits of a related language study, such as Chinese or Sanskrit. Honours students concentrating in Asian religions may also count an additional six credits of a related language study toward their program.

B - Christianity (21 credits)

6 RELI 223[3], RELI 302[3]

15 Chosen from any 300- or 400-level course in Christianity. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

NOTE: Majors in Religion students concentrating in Christianity may count up to six credits of a related language study, such as Greek, Latin, or Coptic. Honours students concentrating in Christianity may also count an additional six credits of a related language study toward their program.

C - Judaism (21 credits)

12 Chosen from RELI 220[3], 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]

9 Chosen from Judaic Studies elective courses at the 200, 300, or 400 level. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

NOTE: Majors in Religion students concentrating in Judaism may count up to six credits of a related language study, such as Hebrew, Aramaic, or Yiddish. Honours students concentrating in Judaism may also count an additional six credits of a related language study toward their program.

D – Women, Gender, and Sexuality (21 credits)

3 Chosen from RELI 233[3], 380[3]

18 Chosen from any religion courses on women, gender, body, sexuality, or food. This may include courses not already taken at the first level of requirement. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

E – Islam (21 credits)

6 Chosen from: RELI 224[3], 316[3], 319[3]

15 Chosen from any 300- or 400-level course in Islam, including courses not already taken at the first level of requirement. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

NOTE: Majors in Religion concentrating in Islam may count up to six credits of a related language study, such as Arabic and Persian. Honours students concentrating in Islam must take at least nine credits of Arabic, to be counted in the 12-credit "language related to thesis" category of the honours program. Honours students may also count an additional six credits of Arabic toward their program.

NOTE: Students who demonstrate fluency in a related language by a written examination by substitute RELI courses at the 300 and 400 level approved by the departmental advisor for language courses.

Southern Asia Studies

The Department of Religion participates with History, Political Science and several other departments in the Southern Asia Studies Programme which offers a major and a minor as follows:

MAJOR (42 credits)

6 credits History 261 and Religion 215

3 credits Chosen from any relevant course in the Department of History

3 credits Chosen from any relevant course in the Department of Political Science

6 credits Chosen from any relevant courses in the Department of Religion

24 credits Chosen from relevant courses in any department including but not limited to History; Religion; Political Science; Classics, Modern Languages and Linguistics; Economics; English; Geography, Planning and Environment; Sociology and Anthropology; the Faculty of Fine Arts; and the John Molson School of Business. Students may also request credits for Southern Asia related courses (including languages) taught at other Quebec universities.

MINOR (24 credits)

6 credits History 261 and Religion 215

3 credits Chosen from any relevant course in the Department of History, Political Science, Economics or English

6 credits Chosen from any relevant courses in the Department of Religion

9 credits Chosen from relevant courses in any department (see above)

Please see the Undergraduate Calendar for further details on the Southern Asia Studies Programme.

For more information, contact:
Dr. Lynda Clarke: lynda.clarke@concordia.ca or Dr. Marc Lalonde: marc.lalonde@concordia.ca

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

Student Advising
Students who have questions concerning their programme of study or need assistance relating to academic difficulties can contact the Department either by phone (848-2424, ext. 2065) or email religion@alcor.concordia.ca and make an appointment to meet with an undergraduate advisor.

Undergraduate Listserve
Religion students and students taking one or more Religion courses have the option of being added to the Religion Undergraduate Listserve. This listserve helps to keep students informed of upcoming events, guest speakers and academic deadlines.

Department Web Page
Visit the Department's webpage and find information on the various courses offered, course outlines, faculty research interests, guest lectures and conferences, information on our graduate programmes plus much more:
http://www.concordia.ca/artsci/religion.html

THE BOYD SINYARD AWARD

Each year the Boyd Sinyard award is given to the outstanding graduating student in Religion. The award is named after the first chairman of the Department of Religion at Sir George Williams University.

CONCORDIA RELIGION STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (CRSA)

If you are studying within the Department of Religion (i.e. if you are an Honours, Major, Minor or just taking a course offered by the department), you are a member of the CRSA. CRSA is a student-administered organization dedicated to fostering community and expanding the educational experience of all Religion students. Each year the executive branch of CRSA (five students elected to plan and administer CRSA affairs) offers Religion students the chance to meet each other and faculty at various social gatherings, as well as the opportunity to enliven their education by attending CRSA sponsored lectures given by learned academics and religious thinkers from all parts of the world. CRSA members are urged to take advantage of the student lounge located in the basement of annex R (2050 Mackay). This is a place where students can study, hang out or use the free phone. If you would like more information about CRSA, leave a message in our mailbox at the Department of Religion. The website is: www.crsaconcordia.weebly.com

COURSES
SUMMER 2015
(May 4 – June 23)

RELI 214/1 - A (3 credits) M.W. 1015-1230
RELIGIONS OF THE WEST
Instructor:

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that arose in Western Asia, including Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The course examines contemporary forms of religious life in those parts of the world where these traditions have spread, as well as indigenous religions. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these various traditions. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 214 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 310/1 - AA (3 credits) T.J. 1215-1445
SELF AND OTHER
Instructor:

This course considers ethical issues arising in the context of personal and interpersonal relations, families and friendships, and health and medical care. These issues are discussed in relation to traditional and contemporary moral perspectives, both religious and non-religious. Topics covered may vary from year to year, but may include discussions of conscience and career, privacy, sexual relations, harassment, substance abuse, abortion, euthanasia, and gay and lesbian relations. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELZ 310 may not take this course for credit.*

COURSES
FALL AND WINTER 2015-2016
(/2 = Fall /4 = Winter)

RELI 209/2 - A (3 credits) W.F. 1145-1300
THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION
Instructor:

This course explores the conceptual elements that underlie the religious experience. These elements include the notion of the sacred, beliefs, cosmologies and myths, the origins and understanding of evil, ethics and salvation. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 211 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 210/4– A (3 credits) W.F. 1145-1300
RELIGION IN PRACTICE
Instructor:

This course focuses on the day-to-day practice of religious traditions. Included are the expression of religious experiences through art, music, and scripture; transmission of these religious expressions through ritual, worship and mystical/ecstatic practices; and the construction and maintenance of different types of religious authority and communal identities. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 211 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 215/4 – A (3 credits) W.F. 0845-1000
RELIGIONS OF ASIA
Instructor:

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that have arisen in and spread throughout Asia, including Hinduism, Buddhism, and the religions of China and Japan. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these traditions. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 215 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 220/2- A (3 credits) W.F. 1315-1430
INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM
Instructor: Ira Robinson

This course will examine the history of Jews and of Judaism from ancient times until the present. It will emphasize the continuities, changes and interrelationships with respect to Jewish social, religious and intellectual life through the ages. It will also carefully examine the varieties of belief and practice in contemporary Jewish life. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 222 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 223/2 - A (3 credits) T.J.1145-1300
INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes

This course provides an introductory survey of key developments and enduring structures in the historical evolution of Christianity. It examines the variety of expressions of faith embodied in different churches and traces the ways in which beliefs, institutions, symbols, and rituals have in the past and continue today to carry forward the Christian tradition as a world religion in a variety of cultural contexts.

RELI 224/2 – A (3 credits) T.J.0845-1000
INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM
Instructor:

This course explores the religious tradition of Islam through the beliefs and practices of the vast number of Muslims scattered throughout the world – in the Middle East, South and Southeast Asia, North America, and other places. It examines the scriptures and common rituals or "pillars" of the religion, as well as expressions of life and culture in the past and present such as the law (shariah), mystical orders, and the arts.

RELI 225/2 – AA (3 credits) W. 1800-2015
INTRODUCTION TO HINDUISM
Instructor: Shaman Hatley

This course surveys Hinduism in its diverse history, sects, schools of thought, sacred texts, spiritual practices, and contemporary interpretations. We will focus on several prominent dimensions of the tradition, including the Hindu temple, mysticism and metaphysics in the Upanisads, karma and rebirth, dharma (religious duty and the cosmic/social order), moksha (liberation), gender and caste, devotional traditions, and narrative literatures. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 298 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 226/2 – A (3 credits) M.W.0845-1000
INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
Instructor: Marc des Jardins

This course introduces students to the diversity of forms of Buddhism that have emerged in history and are practiced today. It examines those aspects that are shared in common by Buddhists all over the world, including reverence for the Buddha, support of the monastic order, and adherence to the Buddha's teachings. The course explores the ways in which these ideals and beliefs are expressed through such Buddhist practices as worship, study, pilgrimage, and meditation. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 350 or 364 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 227/2 – AA (3 credits) J. 1800-2015
INTRODUCTION TO IRANIAN CIVILIZATION
(xlist HIST 298)
Instructor: Richard Foltz

Iran has played a central role in world history, giving rise to Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, and the Baha'I faith, as well as numerous sects. Iranian culture has also played a major role in informing and transforming Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism and Islam. This course covers the long history of Iranian civilization and its influence on peoples from the Mediterranean world to South and East Asia in the realms of religion, literature, architecture, and the arts. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 412 or for this topic under a RELI 298 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 302/4 - A (3 credits) T.J.1015-1130
BIBLICAL STUDIES I I: CHRISTIAN ORIGINS
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes

A critical survey of Christian origins, this course focuses on New Testament literature

and considers historical setting, history of text, religious and cultural significance. Attention is paid to extra-canonical literature and other relevant sources.

RELI 306/4 – AA (3 credits) J. 1800-2015
RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN CONTEMPORARY IRAN
Instructor: Richard Foltz

Heir to one of the world's great civilizations, Iran today is often viewed negatively by the West. However, the reality of life in the Islamic Republic differs in many ways from popular conceptions. This course explores the roots, development and current situation of a uniquely modern and dynamic contemporary Muslim society. Topics will include gender relations, political theory, contemporary literature and the arts.

RELI 312/2 – A (3 credits) M.W. 1445-1600
JUSTICE AND SOCIAL CONFLICT IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD
Instructor: Marc Lalonde

This course considers ethical issues arising in the context of social, legal, and political relations. These issues are discussed in relation to both traditional and contemporary moral perspectives, both religious and non-religious. Topics covered typically include discussions of social and economic inequality, welfare, poverty, just punishment, business ethics, public ethics, economic development, and sustainable development. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 332 or RELZ 312 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 312/4 – A (3 credits) M.W. 1445-1600
JUSTICE AND SOCIAL CONFLICT IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD
Instructor: Marc Lalonde

This course considers ethical issues arising in the context of social, legal, and political relations. These issues are discussed in relation to both traditional and contemporary moral perspectives, both religious and non-religious. Topics covered typically include discussions of social and economic inequality, welfare, poverty, just punishment, business ethics, public ethics, economic development, and sustainable development. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 332 or RELZ 312 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 316/4 - AA (3 credits) T. 1800-2015
CLASSICAL ISLAM
Instructor: Richard Foltz

The course explores the various aspects of Muslim civilization from its initial spread from Arabia to Spain, sub-Saharan Africa, India, and China, up to the age of the Ottoman, Safavid and Mughal empires in the 16th and 17th centuries. Special attention is given to the emergence of schools of law, theology, philosophy, and mystical orders, as well as the literature, arts, and architecture of diverse Muslim societies.

RELI 319/4 - AA (3 credits) W. 1800-2015
MODERN ISLAM
Instructor: Lynda Clarke

This course surveys some of the questions raised by modernity for Muslims and the various responses Muslims have sought to formulate and put into practice. Issues addressed may include government, law, gender, relations with the West, and religious authority.

RELI 325/2- A (3 credits) T.J. 1145-1300
LEADERS, REBELS AND SAINTS: MOSES
Instructor: Naftali Cohn

Who was Moses and what made him a leader? These two questions will animate our exploration of the ways in which this quintessential Jewish religious leader is portrayed in literature, art, and cinema from the Bible to contemporary times. The varying portraits of Moses will illustrate the different approaches that have been taken through the ages to the character of Moses, the nature of leadership, the relationship with the divine, and the highest human values. In addition, our study of the evolving picture of Moses will help uncover the unique factors that may have shaped his (re-)presentation in each setting.
Note: *Students who have received credit for RELI 308 may not take this course for credit*

RELI 326/4 - A (3 credits) T.J. 1015-1130
ANCIENT JUDAISM
Instructor: Naftali Cohn

This course is a survey of Jewish religion, culture, and literature in its formative period, from the 5th century before the Common Era to the 10th century of the Common Era. The focus is on key moments, movements, and cultural motifs that demonstrate the ways in which Jewish groups were both part of their larger cultural world but also distinctive, divided into a variety of groups but also united.

RELI 327/4 - A (3 credits) M.W. 1315-1430
MEDIEVAL JUDAISM
Instructor: Ira Robinson

In this course, we will explore the social, religious, and intellectual history of the Jews in the Middle Ages. In so doing, we will attempt to look at the ways in which Jews and Judaism were decisively influenced by the environments of the Islamic and Christian countries in which the vast majority of them lived, as well as by the social and intellectual struggles internal to the Jewish community in this period.

RELI 329/2 - A (3 credits) W.F. 1015-1130
(xlist POLI 398)
ISRAEL: RELIGION AND STATE
Instructor: Ira Robinson

This course will examine issues relating to religions in Israel. It will include an analysis of historical and contemporary attempts to define Israel as a "Jewish State". It will include as well the position of religions, especially Judaism but inclusive as well of Islam and Christianity, with respect to the Israeli state and its laws. It will explore various

Judaic visions of the State of Israel and its religio-political destiny as well as the societal tensions engendered by the variety of Israeli-Jewish interpretations of Judaism and the Judaic lifestyle. It will also deal with the de facto presence of several religious traditions within Israeli society and their influence on Israel's societal discourse.

RELI 331/4 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1015-1130
LITERATURE AND THE HOLOCAUST
(xlisted ENGL 398)
Instructor: Norman Ravvin

Religious, historical, literary, and political contexts have been applied to come to terms with the events of the Holocaust. All of these are relevant as students read important and provocative novels dealing with such issues as ethics, the relationship between art and history, the use of humour and popular cultural forms, as well as the way that storytelling helps direct our understanding of events that are often said to be incomprehensible. The wider impact of fiction dealing with the Holocaust on the popular media, including film, CD-ROMs, video, and news reporting, is also considered **Note:** *Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 332/2 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1015-1130
CANADIAN JEWISH LITERATURE
(xlisted ENGL 398)
Instructor: Norman Ravvin

This course explores the Jewish voice in Canadian literature which can be seen to be the first opening toward a multicultural tradition in this country. Writers such as A.M. Klein, Mordecai Richler, Henry Kreisel, and Leonard Cohen created an English-language tradition of Jewish writing that is varied, provocative, and lively. Students look at novels, short stories, some poetry, memoir, and criticism. Students also consider non-Jewish authors, such as Gwethalyn Graham and Mavis Gallant, who were among the first to write about Jewish characters for an English-speaking Canadian audience. This course allows students to consider issues related to Canadian identity and culture, ethnic studies, and multiculturalism alongside literary questions. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 335 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 336/4 A – (3 credits) J. 1800-2015
SEPHARDIC JUDAISM
Instructor:

This course studies the social and spiritual life of the various communities within the Sephardi world. Topics include Judaism under Islam; the expulsion and dispersion; Sephardi-Maghrebi Judaism; modern times in Arab lands; Sephardi life in the new world; Europe, and Israel. In addition, the philosophical, Halakhic, biblical, and mystical works of Sephardi Jews are examined.

RELI 337/2 – A (3 credits) T. 1345-1600
(xlist RELI 670J/ ENGL 398)
THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS
Instructor: Lorenzo DiTommaso

In 1947 a shepherd boy accidentally discovered some scraps of ancient texts in a cliff

cave near the Dead Sea. Sixty years later, the Dead Sea Scrolls have radically altered our knowledge of the Hebrew Bible and early Judaism, and shed new light on the origins of Christianity. This undergraduate course, which is also being offered as a graduate seminar, introduces students to the Scrolls and their tremendous impact in these areas. Knowledge of Hebrew and Aramaic is an asset but not required.

RELI 344/2 - A (3 credits) J.1315-1600
HINDU MYTH AND NARRATIVE: THE EPICS AND PURANAS
Instructor: Shaman Hatley

This course approaches Hinduism through its narrative literature, especially the great epics (the *Mahabharata* and *Ramayana*) and mythological texts (*Puranas* – the "Ancient Books"). Through stories of gods, devotees, villains, and heroes, the course explores the development of significant themes in the Hindu tradition, from ethics and philosophy to asceticism and devotion. An important focus of the course is the enduring cultural significance of myth and the epics, as retold through the ages in a variety of languages, cultural contexts, and media, including classical and vernacular texts, the oral tradition, drama, dance, and cinema.

RELI 346/4 - A (3 credits) T.J.1315-1430
GANDHI, COLONIALISM, AND BEYOND
Instructor: Shaman Hatley

This course concerns Hindu traditions in the modern world, beginning with the period of colonial British rule in South Asia. Students examine the writings and historical contexts of influential Hindu reformers, intellectuals, and activists, including Ram Mohun Roy, Dayananda Sarasvati, Swamy Vivekananda, the Tagores, V.D. Savarkar, and especially Mahatma Gandhi. Issues of focus include the history of the modern idea of Hinduism, responses to European thought and institutions (including Christianity), Hindu understandings of modernity, social change and reform, religious nationalism, contemporary gurus and their transnational movements, and Hinduism in the diaspora.

RELI 347/2 - A (3 credits) T. 1315-1600
(xlisted RELI 619)
RELIGION AND THE ARTS IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Instructor: Leslie Orr

This course is an introduction to the religious art of South and Southeast Asia, including an examination of Hindu, Buddhist, and Islamic architecture, sculpture, painting, and performing arts. The course examines the ways in which sacred art is related to myth and symbol, religious values and goals, ritual, religious experience, and social and political realities.

RELI 355/2 – AA (3 credits) W. 1800-2015
RELIGION AND VIOLENCE
Instructor: Marc Lalonde

This course explores how religion may be seen to engender or exacerbate violence, as well as the ways that religion may critique, prevent or even offer alternatives to violence. Sacred writings, theologies, rituals and communal actions of particular communities are studied, as well as notions of the self, the group, others, outsiders and enemies. In particular, the life-work and writings of such key figures as Mahatma Gandhi and Martin

Luther King are studied in order to provide some religious perspectives on the relationship between non-violence and the resistance to injustice. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 355/4 - AA (3 credits) W. 1800-2015
RELIGION AND VIOLENCE
Instructor: Marc Lalonde

This course explores how religion may be seen to engender or exacerbate violence, as well as the ways that religion may critique, prevent or even offer alternatives to violence. Sacred writings, theologies, rituals and communal actions of particular communities are studied, as well as notions of the self, the group, others, outsiders and enemies. In particular, the life-work and writings of such key figures as Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King are studied in order to provide some religious perspectives on the relationship between non-violence and the resistance to injustice. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 358/4 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1315-1430
(xlisted RELI 630)
ANTHROPOLOGY OF RELIGON
Instructor: Hillary Kaell

This course introduces students to debates and themes that have coloured the anthropology of religion over the last century. After covering classic anthropological texts, it focuses on contemporary issues including self-reflexivity, power/agency, materiality and consumption, post-colonialization, post-modernity/secularity and communitas. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 363/4 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1445-1600
(xlisted RELI 619Y)
JAINISM
Instructor: Leslie Orr

This course provides an introduction to the religious culture of the Jain community. The early history of the Jain tradition in India is explored through a consideration of the life stories of the great teachers of the tradition, of the classical systems of Jain philosophy, cosmology and ethics and of the rich traditions of Jain narrative literature and art. Contemporary Jainism, including the religious practices of monks, nuns laymen, and laywomen, and the contemporary relevance of Jainism's central precept of universal non-violence (ahimsa) are also studied.

RELI 364/2 - A (3 credits) M.W.1145-1300
MAHAYANA BUDDHISM
Instructor: Marc des Jardins

This course studies the origins and evolution of the Mahayana Buddhist in India, and the spread and growth of various Mahayana traditions in East Asia. It examines developments in texts, doctrine, philosophy, ethical ideals, practices (worship and meditation), and institutions.

RELI 368/2 - A (3 credits) M.W. 1615-1730
RELIGION IN NATIVE TRADITIONS
Instructor:

This overview looks at the many diverse religious traditions of the First Nations populations in North America. The course examines the sacred stories, ceremonial patterns, life cycle rituals, and religious activities in their varied expressions. Consideration is given to the historical interaction of native government with religious practices.

RELI 376/4 – A (3 credits) M.W. 1015-1130
PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION
Instructor:

The discipline of Psychology of Religion can usually be described in terms of two streams. The first is experimental and empirical and the second "humanistic", philosophical and theoretical. This class will focus on the second stream. It will seek insights from the convergence of the disciplines of psychology and religious studies in addressing such questions as: What does it mean to be religious? What is the role of religion in individual development? What is the place of relationships to others in religious life? How is authenticity characterized? How are gender differences treated in the psychology of religion? We will explore some of the classical psychological theories of religion, those developed by James, Freud, Erikson, and Jung, as well as more recent developments by post-modern and feminist theorists.

RELI 378/2 - A (3 credits) T.J. 1315-1430
DEATH AND DYING
Instructor: Hillary Kaell

This course provides a comparative perspective on the variety of conceptions and practices related to death and dying that are found in different world religions. In addition, the course considers how people in contemporary North American society utilise traditional religious concepts and rituals, scientific understandings and medical procedures, or innovative combinations of ideas and practices to cope with, and make sense of, the problem of death. Lectures, discussions and some small group work will constitute the major teaching methods. Guest lecturers will be invited. Students should complete the course with some general understanding of, and critical appreciation for, the ways in which different religious traditions explain death and its attendant issues, and how these might assist individuals in coping with their own death or that of others.

RELI 380/4 - A (3 credits) T.J.0845-1000
RELIGION AND SEXUALITY
Instructor:

This course examines, from a comparative and historical perspective, the interplay between religion and sexuality. It looks at the development of attitudes towards sexuality within diverse religious traditions, and religious manifestations of sexuality. Topics include, among others: human reproduction, gender roles and identity, birth control, abortion, celibacy, sexual variance, and homosexuality.

RELI 383/2 - AA (3 credits) J. 1800-2015
WOMEN AND RELIGION: ISLAM
Instructor: Lynda Clarke

This course explores past and present debates among Muslims about the ideal status of women in Islam. The historical and legal background — the material of the debate — is examined first. The class then considers how a variety of discourses, ranging from conservative to Muslim-feminist, treat and manipulate this material.

RELI 386/4 - AA (3 credits) W.2030-2245
WITCHCRAFT, MAGIC AND RELIGION
Instructor:

This course approaches the study of magic, witchcraft, and religion from a variety of perspectives. Taking examples from indigenous cultures, the ancient world, medieval Europe, the early modern period and contemporary movements, the practices and rituals that have been labeled magic or witchcraft are examined, along with the responses to them. The course explores how magicians and witches view themselves, how different cultures relate to them, and how magic, witchcraft, and religion merge and diverge. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 392/4 - A (3 credits) M.W. 1145-1300
(xlisted RELI 697)
WOMEN IN JEWISH HISTORY: MODERN
Instructor: Norma Joseph

This course examines the lives and experiences of Jewish women in the modern period. The Immigrations to North America and the subsequent development of the community provide the framework for investigating Jewish women's encounter with and contribution to modern Jewish life. The main focus is on North America, using primary sources such as fiction, biography, and autobiography. The influence of denominational differences and feminist challenges complete the survey.

RELI 394/2 – AA (3 credits) T. 1800-2015
HISTORY OF SATAN
Instructor: Lorenzo DiTommaso

This course investigates the origins, development, and significance of personified evil, that is Satan and his demons, in early Judaism and in the history of Christianity. Consideration is given to some of the most important literary and visual depictions of this figure and his story from the ancient world through the Middle Ages to present day. The course sheds light on how intellectuals thought of this figure and also how Satan came to play an important role in popular culture down through the centuries. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 398/2 –A (3 credits) T.J. 1015-1130
CHRISTIAN REFORMERS AND THE RISE OF MODERNITY
Instructor: Hillary Kaell

This course explores Christianity's central role in the creation of modernity from the 16th to the 19th centuries, illustrating how this period of unprecedented discovery and change forever altered the shape of the Christian faith. Topics under consideration include European colonialism, Christian missions to the New World, the Protestant Reformation, the birth of the nation state, the Enlightenment, emergence of capitalism, and the rise of modern science. Note: Students who have taken the same course under a different number may not take this course for credit.

RELI 409/2 – AA (3 credits) M.1800-2015
METHODOLOGY AND THE STUDY OF RELIGION
Instructor: Marc Lalonde
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This class explores the conceptual and practical foundations that have established the discipline and study of religion as it has developed over the last century or so. At the conceptual level we will be concerned to enquire: how have scholars gone about the study of religion? What sorts of approaches and methods have they relied on? What are the suppositions of these approaches and methods? What kinds of languages and philosophies have been used to explain such scholarly efforts? We will also attend to the various interests that have inevitably guided such research. What are these interests? What are their sources and inspiration? How are they related to wider social, cultural, and historical realities? Thus ours will be a critical examination of religious studies as we endeavour to understand, analyze, and situate the component parts that make up the method and study of religion today. However, we will also be concerned to put these critiques into practice. Toward that end, a portion of this course will be devoted to a guided fieldwork project.

RELI 430/4– B (3 credits) J. 1600-1815
(xlisted RELI 630/833)
HEAR, SEE, TASTE, TOUCH: CHRISTIANITY AND MATERIAL CULTURE
Instructor: Hillary Kaell
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department

This course explores the myriad material forms that make faith tangible for Christians and other persons of faith: images and art, devotional and liturgical objects, architecture and sacred space, and mass-produced projects. It explores the importance of practices that incorporate objects like ritual, prayer, liturgy, instruction, and display. It pays close attention to the scholarly and theological debates that result.

RELI 498/2 - D (3 credits) M. 1600-1815
(xlisted RELI 620F/2 A)
RELIGIONS OF THE SILK ROAD
Instructor: Richard Foltz
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

The Silk Road is a concept used to refer to a network of overland trade routes that linked the Mediterranean, China, and India from around the beginning of the Common Era to the fifteenth century. A conduit for culture as well as material goods, the Silk Road

played a major role in the development and transmission of Buddhism, Christianity, Manichaeism, and Islam. Iranian, Indic, Chinese, and shamanistic religions were also part of this dynamic mix. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper-level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/2 – A (3 credits) T. 1530-1745
(xlisted RELI 639)
CEMETERIES
Instructor: Hillary Kaell
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This course uses Mount Royal Cemetery as an axis around which students engage a number of themes related to changing notions of death from the mid-1800s to present. This includes theologies of the soul, developments in medicine and grappling with issues about how to share sacred space in an increasingly pluralistic Montreal. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/2 – B (3 credits) W.1830-2045
(xlisted RELI 616)
READING BUDDHIST TEXTS – ESOTERIC BUDDHISM
Instructor: Marc des Jardins
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

Esoteric Buddhism is a form of religious practices and beliefs akin to mystery religions of antiquity. It consists of the performance of initiation rites, elaborate rituals, advanced forms of yoga with aims of spiritual enlightenment as well as mundane successes. This course examines the formation of Esoteric Buddhism in India and its spread to South-East Asia, China, Tibet and Japan. It studies its main doctrinal points, its contributions to local cultures and its social and religious functions. A basic knowledge of Buddhism is advisable to take this class. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/2– C (3 credits) J. 1600-1815
(xlisted RELI 636A/839 and ENGL)
RELIGION AND LITERATURE
Instructor: Norm Ravvin
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

How do literary works help us understand religious traditions? In what way can literary texts stand as revisions or re-interpretations of religious texts and belief? This course will apply these questions with regard to a number of religious traditions. Readings will include canonical religious, literary and critical texts. We will consider how certain provocative books have created social and political unrest, and we will examine how certain thinkers help us understand literary work as expressions of religious modes of thought and creativity. *Thisis a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating*

RELI 498/4 – E (3 credits) W. 1600-1815
(xlisted RELI 649/828)
CHRISTIAN MASCULINITIES
Instructor: Donald Boisvert
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

Masculinity has been a site of contestation in the Christian tradition. How it is understood, constructed, lived out and critiqued has varied over the centuries. There is not just one universal form of Christian masculinity, but rather a diversity of masculinities. This course will examine, from historical and sociological perspectives, these varying types of Christian masculinities. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/4– H (3 credits) T. 1300-1515
(xlisted RELI 640)
READING SEX IN THE BIBLE
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department

What does the Bible say about human sexuality? This course examines the diverse ideologies of sexuality in the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament and related ancient Jewish and Christian writings. It addresses the historical context in which this literature was produced, and is centrally concerned with hermeneutics: how have Christians (some attention will be given to the Jewish tradition as well) read their Bibles in relationship to sexuality? What are the implications (e.g. ethical, social, religious, political) of these interpretations, historically and in our own time? Issues considered include: marriage, celibacy, gendered and sexual identities, same-sex relationships, sexual violence, human reproduction, masturbation, and desire. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/4– G (3 credits) W. 1830-2045
(xlisted RELI 614)
VAISNAVISM
Instructor: Shaman Hatley
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department

This course examines Hinduism's Vaishnava traditions across regions and historical periods, in and beyond India. Topics include the Hindu great epics, Vaishnava deities, mythology and theology, core scriptures such as the Bhagavad Gita and Bhagavata Purana, the relationships between Vaishnavism, Shaivism and Vedic orthodoxy, and regional Vaishava sects (e.g. Srivaishnavism, Bengali Vaishnavism, and the Pushtimarg), as well as Vaishnava traditions in the modern world. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/4– I (3 credits) T. 1600-1815
(xlisted with RELI 670/801)
ANCIENT JEWISH BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION
Instructor: Naftali Cohn
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department

This course introduces the major methods, genres, and authors of ancient Biblical interpretation—together with important recent theoretical approaches to this

material. Ancient works considered include later biblical books, rabbinic midrash, and the works of early Jewish and Christian authors, such as Jubilees, The Gospels, and the writings of Philo and Josephus. In exploring the similarities and differences between these various authors and their interpretations, the course reveals the ways in which this central text was made ever new and relevant and the ways in which it serves for us as a mirror on the religious diversity of Classical to Late Antiquity. *This course is a seminar format one, in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating*

RELI 498/4– J (3 credits) M. 1600-1815
(xlisted RELI 612/835)
THE QURAN AND ITS INTERPRETERS
Instructor: Lynda Clarke
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

The course examines selected issues and themes through various works of exegesis or *tafsir*, ranging from the formative texts to interpretations produced in modern times. Development of the exegetical tradition and the nature of various approaches are also considered. Language proficiency is not required, although original texts are available to those able to read them. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 411 may not take this course for credit. This course is a seminar format one, in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating*

Department of Religion - Timetable Fall 2015

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
0845-1000	226	224	226	224	
10:15-11:30		321 332	329	321 332	329
11:45-13:00	364	223 325	209 364	223 325	209
13:15-14:30		378 337/670 347/619	220	378 344	220
14:45-16:00	312	498/639	312		
16:15-17:30	368 498/620		368	498/636/839	
18:00-20:15	409	394	225 355 498/616	227 383	
20:30-22:45					

Department of Religion - Timetable Winter 2016

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
0845-1000		380	215	380	215
10:15-11:30	376	302 331 326	376	302 331 326	
11:45-13:00	392/697		392/697 210		210
13:15-14:30	327	346 358/630 498/640	327	346 358/630	
14:45-16:00	312	363/619Y	312	363/619Y	
16:15-17:30	498/612/835	498/670/801	498/649/828	430/630/833	
18:00-20:15		316	319 355 498/614	306 336	
20:30-22:45			386		